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FOR

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM

Jack Anderson

STATION

WEAM Radio

Mutual Network

DATE

March 12, 1982

9:00 AM

CITY

Washington, DC

SUBJECT

CIA and Nicaragua

JACK ANDERSON: The Administration claims it has proof of Soviet/Cuban involvement in Nicaragua but its credibility is low on Capitol Hill.

Here is the Inside Story.

White House officials say they have proof of Soviet/Cuban involvement in Nicaragua and can even produce photographs purporting to show Russian activity in Central America. But my Capitol Hill sources tell me that the Administration's credibility in Congress is low.

You see, the White House has cried wolf so often that many congressmen are skeptical of the claims. Doubts are particularly strong inside the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The Committee has been fully briefed on Latin American events by the CIA and the State Department. Still my sources tell me that the senators were not convinced by the facts that were given. They are demanding more evidence.

Meanwhile the CIA is desperate to be believed. Sources within the intelligence agency are convinced that Soviet supplies have been flown into Nicaragua.

The spies have been able to track at least some Russian flights from Moscow to Managua.

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